Federation Ltd., Bhopal has submitted proposals for dairy development only in Jhabua, Balaghat, Chindwara, Harda, Barwani, Neemuch, Sheopur, Seoni, Burhanpur, Khandwa, Raisen-Vidisha, Hoshangabad districts under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Intensive Dairy Development Programme" (IDDP) during the year 2005 and 2006.

Projects covering districts of Jhabua, Balaghat, Chindwara, Harda, Barwani, Neemuch, Sheopur, Seoni have been approved. Project proposals in respect of the districts of Burhanpur, Khandwa, Raisen-Vidisha, Hoshangabad were examined in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and observations were conveyed to State Government.

Proposals for Bhopal, Sihor, Shajapur, Devas, Ratlam, and Morena districts have not been received in the Department.

MSP for coarse cereals

2626. SHRI T. T. V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce Minimum Support Price for coarse cereals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government announces, every year, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for specified agricultural commodities, including coarse cereals *viz.* jowar, bajra, maize, ragi and barley.

Declining foodgrains production and increasing population

†2627. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a constant decline in foodgrains production of the country due to rising trend of cash crops, increasing population and expansion of industrial-commercial activities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the last four years while population has increased by 8 per cent, the production of foodgrains has declined by 8 per cent as a result of which the number of persons suffering from malnutrition is increasing;

(c) whether Government have prepared any action plan to contain the situation of slowly creeping starvation and to increase the foodgrains production so as to bring diversification in rural life; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.